Imbalance in consumption of Fertilizers

681. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the consumption of fertilizers is less in Eastern and Western regions ;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor ;

(c) what is the region-wise and State-wise consumption of fertilizers ; and

(d) the manner in which Government propose to remove the imbalance in order to improve production of foodgrains ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The main reasons for low consumption of fertilizers in the eastern and western regions are:

(i) Farmers are reluctant to use the recommended doses of fertilizers because vest ares are either rainfed as in case of west zone or excessive rainfall/flood in some of the eastern States;

(ii) difficulty in transportation of fertilizers particularly in interior areas due to lack of proper road and rail lines;

(iii) the farmers' resources capability being poor, the investment on fertilizers is comparatively low;

(iv) fertilizer retail outlets are thinly spread;

(v) Lack of institutional credit facility, etc.

(c) A statement indicating the region-wise and State-wise consumption of fertilizers during 1991-92 is attached (*See* below).

(d) The following measures have been taken by Central Government to remove the imbalance and to improve production of foodgrains.

(i) Reduced the price of urea by 10% with effect from 25-8-92;

(ii) exempted the fertilizer dealers holding up to 10 tonnes of fertilizer material from the requirement of registration under the fertilizer control order;

(iii) Sales of fertilisers to farmers in small bags;

(iv) free soil testing service to farmers;

(v) release of short-term loans to State Governments for advance purchase of fertilisers;

(vi) a scheme on balanced use of fertilisers is being implemented which is expected to help in generating demand and promoting balanced use of fertilisers;

(vii) a scheme on bio-fertiliser production and promotion is being implemented. This is expected to help in supply and use of organic forms of plant nutrients;

(viii) in order to bring down the price of decontrolled fertilisers and increase its consumption, the Central Government took several steps like provision of Rs. 756 crores for release to States/U.Ts. for concessional sale of decontrolled DAP, MOP, Complexes and SSP during 1993-94, decanalisation of di-ammonium phosphate and MOP, reduction in railway freight by approximately 38%, abolition of costums duty on certain raw materials, etc.

Statement

Region-wise, State-wise Consumption of Fertilizers during 1991-92

State	Fertilizer Consumption 1991-92 ('000 tonnes N+P+K)	Per Hectare Consumption 1991-92 (Estimated) (In Kgs. N+P+K for Cropped Area)
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	1582.31	124.00
Karnataka	905.70	75.03
Kerala	224.47	76.98
Tamil Nadu	839.20	141.90
Pondicherry	22.27	537.37
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.25	6.94
South Zone Total	3574.20	106.88
Gujarat	733.26	71.53
Madhya Pradesh	809.68	37.93
Maharashtra	1264.00	60.88
Rajasthan	440.93	25.02
Dadar & Nagar Haveli	1.08	46.11
Goa Daman & Diu	7.58	50.01
West Zone Total :	3256.53	45.71
Haryana	637.16	100.94
Punjab	1244.68	159.26
Uttar Pradesh	2248.58	93.16
Himachal Pradesh	33.72	35.00
Jammu & Kashmir	48.04	52.93
Delhi	11.30	151.13
Chandigarh	0.60	164.50
North Zone Total :	4224.08	104.00
Bihar	603.69	57.76
Orissa	196.01	23.37
West Bengal	755.49	101.70
East Zone Total :	1555.19	59.53

1	2	3
Assam	35.52	10.58
Tripura	10.49	24.96
Manipur	8.83	57.18
Meghalaya	3.33	15.44
Nagaland	0.71	4.69
Arunachal Pradesh	0.47	2.02
Sikkim	1.58	12.65
Mizoram	*0.81*	*11.84*
TEA BOARD (North East)	56.30	Not Available
North East Zone	118.04	25.27
ALL INDIA	12728.94	72.17

Cooperative dairying in India

682. SHRI PASUMPON THA KIRUTTINAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a report on comparative study of Public Sector, Private Sector and cooperative Dairying in India conducted by the United States International Society for Public Policy Analysis as reported in the Economic Times of 6th May, 1993;

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the study and the conclusions derived therein and whether Government have studied the same in depth and their reaction thereto; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to ensure that cooperative dairying in India which is a major support for the farmers in the country is not allowed to suffer ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Developing of seedlings of Oilpalm

683. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the demand for oilpalm seedlings have increased recently and the only Institute viz. the Central Plantation Crop Research Institute (CPCRI) at Palode near Trivandrum developing the seedlings is not able to meet the growing demand;

(b) if so, the details of the demand and availability of the oilpalm seedlings at present; and

(c) what measures are proposed to be taken to increase the capacity of indigenous development of oilpalm seedlings; and

(d) what is the quantum of seedlings imported during the year 1992-93 and from which countries and at what cost ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF